

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Committee for Public Counsel Services 44 Bromfield Street, Boston, MA 02108

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May 24, 2004

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WRITER'S DIRECT DIAL NUMBER

Honorable Francis X. Spina Associate Justice Supreme Judicial Court One Beacon Street, 3rd Floor Boston, MA 02108-3106

Re: <u>LAVALLEE</u>, et al. v. <u>THE JUSTICES OF THE SPRINGFIELD DISTRICT COURT</u>

No. SJ-2004-0198

Dear Justice Spina:

This letter is to inform the Court of a development with respect to the PETITIONERS' FURTHER STATUS REPORT AND MOTION TO AMEND PETITION TO NAME ADDITIONAL PETITIONERS AND RESPONDENTS, which my office filed in the above-entitled litigation on May 21, 2004. Late in the afternoon of May 21, my office received a facsimile message from our Springfield public defender office forwarding a copy of an <u>ORDER OF NOTICE TO SHOW CAUSE RE: CIVIL CONTEMPT OF COURT</u>, which order was dated May 21, 2004. The order is addressed to fifteen named individuals "as they constitute the Committee for Public Counsel Services," and is signed by an Associate Justice of the Superior Court (Sweeney, J.).

The order of notice to show cause, a copy of which is appended hereto, directs each of the fifteen Committee members "to appear before the Superior Court, sitting in Hampden County, on Wednesday, June 2, 2004 at 10:00 a.m. to show cause why you should not be held in civil contempt of court for failure to comply with the Court's order of May 14, 2004 requiring the Committee for Public Counsel Services to assign counsel to represent the defendant James Yates in [HDCR-2004-00472]."

The <u>Yates</u> case referenced in Judge Sweeney's order to show cause is the same case described at paragraphs one through twelve of the affidavit submitted in support of Petitioners' Further Status Report and Motion to Amend in the above-entitled action, filed on May 21.

Very truly yours,

William J. Leahy
Chief Counsel

cc: Ronald F. Kehoe, Assistant Attorney General

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

HAMPDEN, ss.

SUPERIOR COURT CRIMINAL CASE NO. 04-472

COMMONWEALTH

vs.

JAMES YATES

HAMPDEN COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT FILED MAY 2 | 2004

ORDER OF NOTICE TO SHOW CAUSE RE: CIVIL CONTEMPT OF COURT

To the following individuals, as they constitute the Committee for Public Counsel Services:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Eileen D. Agnes, Esquire 94 Lincoln Street Framingham, MA 01702-6354

Victoria M. Bonilla, Esquire Bourbeau & Bonilla 21 Union Street Boston, MA 02108-2406

Ann V. Crowley, Esquire P. O. Box 130 Prides Crossing, MA 01965-0130

Willie J. Davis, Esquire (CHAIRMAN) Davis, Robinson & White, LLP One Faneuil Hall Marketplace South Market Building Boston, MA 02109 Peter J. Muse, Esquire 15 Foster Street Quincy, MA 02169-5307

John T. Ouderkirk, Jr., Esquire 490 Shrewsbury Street, Suite C Worcester, MA 01604-1607

Honorable Robert H. Quinn Quinn & Morris 141 Tremont Street Boston, MA 02111-1209

Charles W. Rankin, Esquire Rankin & Sultan One Commerical Wharf North Boston, MA 02110-3703 Dorege B. Demissie, Esquire
Doherty & Demissie
929 Massachusetts Avenue, Suite 01
Cambridge, MA 02139-4052

Judith A. Egan, Esquire 35 Chestnut Street Wakefield, MA 01880-3601

Matthew H. Feinberg, Esquire (VICE-CHAIRMAN) Feinberg & Kamholtz 125 Summer Street Boston, MA 02110-1616

Judith L. Lindahl, Esquire 24 School Street Boston, MA 02108 Robin L. Stolk, Attorney-in-Charge Children and Family Law Program Committee for Public Counsel Services 1145 Main Street, #420 Springfield, MA 01103-2123

Dorothy Meyer Storrow, Esquire (SECRETARY) 15 Franklin Street, P.O. Box 202 Greenfield, MA 01302-0202

Honorable W. Paul White The Karol Group, Inc. 99 Summer Street, Suite 1030 Boston, MA 02110-1269

You are hereby notified to appear before the Superior Court, sitting in Hampden County, on Wednesday, June 2, 2004 at 10:00 a.m. to show cause why you should not be held in civil contempt of court for failure to comply with the Court's order of May 14, 2004 requiring the Committee for Public Counsel Services to assign counsel to represent the defendant James Yates in the above-captioned case. A copy of that order, which was previously served upon you, is attached hereto.

The contempt hearing will take place at:

Hampden County Superior Court Courtroom No. 6 - Third Floor Hall of Justice 50 State Street Springfield, Massachusetts.

Dated: May 21, 2004

Associate Justice of the Superior Court

Notice to the Clerk: Service is to be made upon the above-listed committee members by in hand service or by leaving at the addresses of the committee members. Additionally, a copy of this notice is to be sent by first class mail and electronic facsimile to the Committee for Public Counsel Services, 44 Bromfield Street, Boston, MA. 02108. A copy shall also be sent to the defendant James Yates at his last and usual place of address. Mr. Yates should be present for the hearing.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Hampden, ss

Superior Court Criminal Case No. 04-472

HAMPDEN COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT FILED

MAY 1 4 2004

COMMONWEALTH

James Yates

MEMORANDUM OF PROCEEDINGS AND ORDER TO ASSIGN COUNSEL

For the reasons stated herein, the Committee for Public Counsel Services (C.P.C.S.) shall forthwith assign counsel to represent the defendant James Yates in the above-captioned criminal case.1

On May 14, 2004 the defendant came before the court for Arraignment on Indictment No. 04-472, charging him with:

count 1 -Unlawful possession of a controlled substance with intent to distribute (Class B - Cocaine) 94C-32A(c)

Count 2 - violation of controlled substance law school or park zone 94c-32j

The court attempted to assign counsel to represent the defendant (Supreme Judicial Court Rule 3:10, § 5 and Superior Court Rule 53).

An attorney in the Springfield Trial Office of C.P.C.S. represents a co-defendant. When the arraignment was called in the First Session this morning there were nine private attorneys approved by C.P.C.S. for private sector appointment present in the courtroom. None of them would accept an appointment as counsel for the defendant. As a result of the private sector attorneys' refusal to accept appointment, the defendant is unrepresented. I continued his Arraignment until May 20. 2004.

All of the legal criteria for appointment of counsel are met in this case. The defendant is indigent. He is charged with crimes punishable by imprisonment. He has not retained counsel nor has he elected to proceed pro se. The laws of the Commonwealth require C.P.C.S. to assign counsel

According to the C.P.C.S. website, the current committee members are Willie J. Davis (Chairman), Eileen D. Agnes, Victoria M. Bonilla, Ann V. Crowley, Derege B. Demissie, Judith A. Egan, Matthew H. Feinberg, Judith L. Lindahl, Peter J. Muse, John T. Ouderkirk, Jr., Robert H. Quinn, Charles W. Rankin, Robin L. Stolk, Dorothy Meyer Storrow, and W. Paul White. Chief legal counsel is William J. Leahy.

under these circumstances.2 They must do so.

Therefore, it is <u>ORDERED</u> that the Committee for Public Counsel shall forthwith assign counsel to represent the defendant and that such counsel appear before the court on, May 20, 2004. The clerk's office shall give notice of this order by electronic facsimile and first class mail addressed to the each committee member and their chief counsel (see fn. 1) at the Committee for Public Counsel Services, 44 Bromfield Street, Boston, MA., 02108. A copy of this order shall be sent to the defendant at his last and usual place of address/ or at the following facility if applicable Hampden County House of Correction. The clerk shall provide the District Attorney with a copy of this order.

Dated: May 14, 2004

Constance M., Sweeney

Associate Justice of the Superior Court

The court's "Memorandum of Proceedings and Order in Commonwealth v. Wheeler, Hampden County Criminal Case No. 02-0150, is incorporated herein by reference. That order was previously served on the Committee members.